



## In Brief

### Corn roast, Firemen's Fest one week away

A longtime annual tradition, the Culver Lions Club's corn roast, held in the town park, will take place Saturday evening, July 25, starting at 4 p.m. Fresh-roasted corn on the cob, hamburgers, and more are part of the cost of the meal.

The annual Firemen's Festival is also part of the lineup. Taking place outside the fire station on Lake Shore Drive, the event includes games, play activities for children, and much more.

### Girl Scouts, Brownies collecting for animals

The Culver Brownie Girl Scouts will be collecting pet food for the Humane Society of Marshall County from July 2 through July 18. The Scouts will be on-site at Park N' Shop in Culver Saturday, July 18, from 2 to 4 p.m. asking for donations, but a box will be set up from now until that date as well for those wishing to donate pet food towards the project.

### Culver High School All-Class Reunion

A Culver High School All-Class Reunion will be held over the July 17-19 weekend, including an informal get-together Friday night, July 17, at the Edgewater Grille, located at 620 E Lake Shore Drive, with DJ/karaoke DJ Tim Prescott with casual attendance from 8 p.m. on. On Saturday, July 18, reunion organizers are asking everyone interested to participate in the annual Lake Fest parade entry, "Culver: Reunited," meeting at the corner of Slate and College streets at 9 a.m. The parade begins at 10 a.m. in the downtown shopping district and will end near the beach lodge. Saturday evening, the Marmont Grille will host entertainment for a social and dinner time from 5 to 8 p.m., in an open-house atmosphere. All food and drinks are the responsibility of the consumers. All are invited to stay to enjoy entertainment from 8 p.m. to 12 a.m. at the Marmont, located at 530 S Ohio St.

### REAL Meals closed for Lake Fest, Dembowski coming

Culver's REAL Services meal will not take place Thursday, July 16 or Friday,

See Briefs page B4

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## A Lion in full

Above: Images from the past few decades of Art Birk, who gave decades of a life of tireless service to Culver through the Lions club, EMS, and in other capacities, was remembered this week following his unexpected death July 6. See story below.

## Culver bids farewell to a tireless servant

Birk honored, celebrated by community

By Jeff Kenney  
Citizen editor

The Culver community gathered Sunday to honor and celebrate the life of a man whose impact on the local, statewide, and even national communities is virtually immeasurable. Arthur "Art" Birk's is practically a household name in Culver, where he has been a community servant on a number of levels for around four decades. Birk passed away last Monday, July 6, and he was celebrated at the Trinity Lutheran Church in Culver Sunday, July 12, where a more than capacity crowd paid its respects Trinity pastor and fellow member with Birk of Culver's Lions Club, K.C. Dehning, another fellow Lion Jim Harper, Nelson Nix of the Lions' Indiana Eye and Tissue Transplant Bank, and friends and colleagues from earlier days including Arnie Friebe, Gilford Snyder, Sam Fryback, and Babs Kamrow, delivered remembrances of, and tributes to Birk. It's a sure bet memories, stories, and tributes to Birk flowed from scores of Culverites and others before and after the event itself, and will continue to do so around Culver and beyond. Arthur "Art" Edwin Birk was born February 23, 1934 to Delbert Victor and Ruth Faye (Lane) Birk in LaPorte, Indiana, attending Teegarden grade school, graduating from Tyner High School in 1951, and living most of his life in Marshall County.

A longtime member of the Blissville Church of the Brethren, he served in the Brethren Volunteer Service in Maryland and Texas from 1951 to 1957 as a conscientious objector. Birk's Culver connection began when he married Patricia "Pat" McGaffey at the Grace United Church of Christ in Culver on February 23, 1957, after which the couple moved to Plymouth for a time while Art worked for Coca-Cola and Pat at Montgomery Ward.

See Birk page A2

## High over Maxinkuckee

Above: Andy Schuller of Culver captured this Father's Day image of "Chasing Dreams," Culverite Jack Semler's hot air balloon which has been making flights over the lake of late. Semler's story appears this issue on page B5.

## 'I think of my own kids...'

Shaffer helps community recall Wests' resilience

By Jeff Kenney  
Citizen editor

For Gary Shaffer of Culver, last Thursday afternoon brought about an emotional moment. For recent Culver Community High School graduate Liz West, that moment must have seemed evidence of providential timing, providing for her funds she needed, right when she needed them.

Liz West was preparing for Christmas last December when – within a few short weeks of one another – both her parents died unexpectedly, leaving the then-high school senior and her middle school-aged sister Margaret on their own. The story caught the attention of the local and regional press, including the Culver Citizen, who reported on Liz's overall determination and intentions to adopt her sister, take her late mother's table-waiting job, and prepare to attend college at Ivy Tech in Lafayette to study dental hygiene and enroll Margaret in school there at her side. By February, 2009, the story caught the ear of a South Bend resident who'd lost his own father suddenly as a teenager. He organized an April benefit for the West



CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY  
Gary Shaffer, left, presented a donation last week to Liz West, who recently lost both parents and is working to adopt her younger sister.

See Birk page A2

## To Maxinkuckee at 100 miles per hour

Marmon legend lives on with east shore Greenleaf family - Part 2 of 2

By Jeff Kenney  
Citizen editor

*Editor's note: In last week's Citizen, we profiled Anne Greenleaf, whose ancestors, Daniel and Elizabeth Marmon, first settled on Lake Maxinkuckee's east shore in 1882, eventually purchasing a home the family still occupies today. Greenleaf described to Culver's Kiwanis Club and the Culver Citizen a much simpler time in her childhood on the lake, as well as her own recollections of changes – and constants – at the property. Also detailed were the philanthropic efforts of Greenleaf's great-grandmother Elizabeth, whose contributions to culture and life in the Culver area included*

*major funding of the Culver Public Library, amongst other endeavors. In this second part of our article, Greenleaf describes the rise of the renowned Marmon automobile company which left her Marmon family ancestors a permanent spot in Indiana's – and the world's – historical record.*

Daniel and Elizabeth Marmon's son Walter, born in 1872, married Annie Burroughs Hall, who gave birth to three children including Franklin Marmon, father of Annie Amelia Marmon, today's Anne Green-



CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY  
Anne Greenleaf

leaf. Franklin's uncle Howard had been named chief en-

gineer of the very successful family business: the Nordyke and Marmon Machine Company, formed in 1851 originally as a manufacturer of flour mill apparatus.

Howard, fascinated by all things mechanical, was well-chosen for his position and focused his considerable aptitude on the up-and-coming mechanical phenomenon of

the "horseless carriage," the automobile. He would build an air-cooled V-twin engine which introduced the notion of pressure lubrication. Before long, the company was selling dozens of the vehicles he designed to make use of his engine, and shifted its focus to their manufacture and development.

"Of course Howard was the real engineer," recalls Anne Greenleaf, "and my grandfather (his brother) Walter was the bookkeeper and president of the company. Uncle Howard was the real designer and built the car that won the first Indianapolis 500 race...I used to

See Greenleaf page A2

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## West from page 1

girls at Chippewa Bowl in South Bend, complete with live music, all the food anyone could eat (and several rounds of bowling), and a host of opportunities for folks from Culver to South Bend and beyond to help supplement the girls' income while Liz finished school and prepared for college.

The story, then, became one of a community – both the local community of Culver and larger community of South Bend and northern Indiana, and many points beyond – uniting even in difficult economic times, to stand by one of its own in need.

Shaffer, of Shaffer Lake Services in Culver, says he was moved by the West's story as soon as he heard it.

"Liz and my (soon-to-

be-CCHS-senior) daughter Lauren look very similar," he explains. The two girls knew each other and Liz – an accomplished basketball player and track runner at the school – interacted with Lauren Shaffer, herself an accomplished runner, during track.

"At regionals, Liz did Lauren's hair, and they looked like twins. I think of my kids. I would hope someone would do something for them if..." Shaffer's voice trails off, clearly emotional-racked at the thought of his own children left without parents.

As a result of learning of Liz's plight and the South Bend fund raiser, Shaffer composed a letter to his many customers on Lake Maxinkuckee back in February. He says at the forefront in his mind were

concerns as to what sort of support would continue for the girls after the school year ended, and their situation too easily forgotten. So he focused on summertime as a goal, telling the West girls' story and of their plans in his letter, and asking customers to consider giving what they could as additional donations beyond the charges on their service bills this spring and early summer.

"It was exciting to see it come through," Shaffer smiles. "At first there was nothing. Then a 20 (dollar donation), and then a 50...a lot of them were hundreds. One guy called and asked about (Liz). I told him what I knew, and he wanted to give \$1,000 anonymously!"

The result: on July 9, Shaffer surprised Liz West

at her recent place of employment (since May), Culver Coffee Company, where owner Dawn Minas had kept Shaffer's plans a secret from Liz but suggested she dress up in case there were any photos for the newspaper taken of the store's new hard ice cream counter. Shaffer described his efforts to a very surprised West and presented her a check for \$4,315.

Shaffer says donations may still be forthcoming, but obviously he's pleased not only to be able to present the money to Liz – which he says took some effort to keep a secret from her all this time – but to tell her story to a number of area residents absent here in the winter and so unaware of the girls' plight.

The money, she says, is "a big help" and comes at a

good time, as she prepares for her move to Lafayette, where she hasn't yet found employment, while new costs loom in the near future.

For her part, Liz West says the months since her parents' passing and the community rallied to support her, have been "rough and easy. I've been keeping busy doing things (regarding their) social security and closing their bank accounts, trying to find a place to live, and working. It's kind of stressful, really. I think it will be easier in time. Now I have somewhere to live in Lafayette, about four miles from campus."

Liz says her sister Margaret "seems to be doing ok." Culver Academies, Liz says, gave Margaret a financial aid package so she could attend summer

school there. "She seems to be enjoying summer camp a lot," adds Liz. "I'll come to see her parade Sunday. I wanted her to have fun this summer at camp."

Margaret will attend high school starting August 15 – just a week after the end of summer camp – near the girls' new home in Lafayette.

Liz's CCHS graduation was "kind of weird," she says.

"I always pictured my parents there for that. With my older siblings, my mom would help them put their cap on, and dad had flowers to give them. My boyfriend handed me the flowers instead. And I graduated! It was exciting."

## Birk from page 1

The couple's son William Eugene was born in May, 1960 in Plymouth, and shortly thereafter the couple bought their home (in October, 1961) on North Plymouth Street in Culver, the same home in which they spent their Culver years and in which Pat lives today. Ruth Ellen Birk, the couple's daughter, was born October 14, 1964.

Besides Coca-Cola, Art worked at Sealed Power in Rochester, Torrington Bearings in South Bend, and retired from DePuy Orthopedics in Warsaw, Indiana, attending North Manchester College as well.

Known to some as "Mr. Fix-it" and to others as "Red" due to his hair color, Birk over the years built many race cars from the frame up, besides building and flying his own, one-man gyrocopter. In more recent years, his trademark became the 1946 Indiana Chief motorcycle which he restored. He even took the ABATE motorcycle safety course at age 74, says Ruth Birk. Through the years, too, his natural mechanical ability would benefit many

Culverites, especially those older or with lesser means, for whom he would fix items needing repair at a moment's notice.

"Anything anybody asked him to do (to help), he did it," says Ruth, adding her father had an opportunity in younger years to put his racecar aptitude to use with big-name Indianapolis racing drivers, but Art Birk felt "his family and community were too important to travel all the time."

In 1973, Birk became Marshall County's first EMT, six years before Culver would form its own Emergency Medical Services department, of which Birk was a founding member as Culver transitioned from Bonine Funeral Home operating the local ambulance service to the Culver-Union Township Emergency Medical Services, alongside then-township trustee Ron Gleason. A number of meetings took place at the Birk house, recalls Ruth, towards grant-writing to obtain Culver's first ambulance rig, and Birk involved Culver's volunteer fire department

in extrication classes in the 1970s as well.

For several years, Art Birk was part of the ever-popular Maxinkuckee Players and Singers, assisting with set building for plays including construction of a four-horse carousel.

Of course, it's Art Birk's involvement with Culver's Lions Club – which he joined in 1975 -- for which so many remember him, and rightly so: his service with that organization, locally, statewide, and even nationally, has left a mark on the Culver community amongst others, and touched countless lives.

Among countless other endeavors with the club, Birk was one of many Culver Lions working almost daily with Lion Elmer Hahn during the purchase and renovation of the Culver Vandalia railroad station-depot into a community building in the early 1980s, a massive project whose benefits will be felt for decades to come.

Art and Pat were both heavily involved in the Lions' Youth Exchange program, bringing as many as



PHOTO/BIRK FAMILY  
Art Birk and wife Pat share one of many moments, several years back.

60 youth from other countries to Culver (including the Birks' own home) and nearby communities each year as well as sending a number of local and statewide young people to ten different countries around the world. Lions International, in fact, named him as a "Top 10 Youth Exchange Chairman" for two years running, during the 1980s.

Art Birk served the Lions in most every position available, including twice as its president. He was Lions District G vice governor from 2001 to 2002, and District G governor from 2002 to 2003.

Birk was a two-time (in 1990 and 2007) Melvin Jones fellow, a humanitar-

ian award which marks the highest honor conferred by the Lions International Foundation (his wife Pat and son Bill are one-time recipients of the award). He also received, in 1991, the Lions' International President's Award for Outstanding Service, one of the most prestigious awards a Lion can receive.

In addition to his work with Lions, in recent years Birk made "many trips to Culver's food pantry" as well as helping out with last year's "Gift of Warmth" effort via the LMax Film Festival in Culver. He ran back and forth to Elkhart to pick up scrap material for use in Culver High School's Industrial Tech courses as well as used clothing for community distribution, says Ruth.

The Lions Club is known internationally for its work in eye care, and Art Birk worked via the Lions in a number of capacities towards that end, including organizing eye screenings for area children in recent years.

It was Birk's commitment to eye care which led to his service in a capacity which earned him renown across Indiana, as a 14-year member of the Indiana Lions Eye and Tissue Transplant

Bank, which he served as chairman and treasurer.

Eye Bank chairman Nelson Nix recalls Birk's great contribution in moving the organization from its cramped quarters of 47 years at the Indiana University Medical Center in Indianapolis, to its own building, a move which Birk helped raise funds for and organize. In recognition of his hard work and tireless effort, the Eye Bank named its one of its conference and training rooms after Birk at the September, 2008 dedication of the new Center.

Nix recalls news of any disaster prompted Birk to ask, "What do they need?" be it hurricane Katrina in New Orleans or closer to home, the tornado-struck town of nearby Nappanee.

"He was a very astute thinker," says Nix of Birk, "He was not argumentative, but assertive and constructive, and he embodied the Lions motto of, 'We Serve'...he was a great friend and a great Lion. His service to others was his guiding principle of his life. He was my right arm."

With that, few in Culver would disagree. "Art was a true and trusted friend," says fellow Lion and long-time Culver funeral home director Jim Bonine, recalling Birk as the maintenance man for Culver's ambulance when Bonine operated it. "I introduced him to Lionism and had the pleasure of being his sponsor in the Culver Lions Club. His work in Lionism on the local, state, and national levels has been outstanding. He will be missed."

Another fellow Lion, Lake Maxinkuckee Environmental Council director Kathy Clark, agrees. "Art's depth of caring for his community was evident in everything he did," she says. "He showed himself to be a true friend to others during trying times."

Clark adds Birk's pancake recipe has been used by the Culver Lions for many years. "It was Art's secret that (made) them great!" she adds.

Art Birk was also, of course, a loving husband and father, and undoubtedly it is his family who will miss him most.

"Do the work of the church and do the work of the people that need served," says Ruth Birk of her father's motivation in life. "He lived his life to help and serve others in any way he could."

Nor does she exaggerate when Art Birk's daughter says, as can all of Culver, "Anywhere we look, there's something Dad did."

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## A class of '67 birthday bash

Culver High School's class of 1967 -- the last class to graduate before the 1968 school consolidation and opening of the new Culver Community High School building -- held a 60th birthday party for its members June 26 in lieu of a traditional reunion. Class members gathered at the Culver Public Library and a "scavenger hunt" was held during which attendees were challenged to locate buildings from a quiz on downtown Culver businesses open during the group's high school years.

Afterwards, Citizen editor and local history buff Jeff Kenney gave the group a Power Point presentation on the history of Culver's downtown, and refreshments were served.

In the front row, left to right: Janette (Salyer) Archbald, Carol Saft, Brenda McAllister, and Paul Hatten. Back row, May (Kowalski) Sims, Marlene (Morrison) Mahler, Penny (Wakefield) Kennedy, Joyce (Odle) Greeson, Patty (Overmyer) Watson, George Jewell, Elaine (Epley) Jensen, Steve Bair, Terry Clifton, Howie Albert, and Dave Kelly. Others who attended but are not pictured were Suzanne (Overmyer) MacOwan, Laura (Miracle) Oatney, Tim Schultz, and John Milner.



CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY

## Death notice

### Birk

**Arthur E. Birk**  
July 6, 2009

CULVER — Arthur E. Birk, 75, of Culver, died at 12:43 p.m. Monday, July 6, 2009 at Porter Memorial Hospital, Valparaiso.

He is survived by his wife, Patricia Birk; son, William Birk of Culver; daughter, Ruth Birk (Kib Brady) of Culver; and brother, Richard Birk.

There will be no visitation. Services were held Sunday, July 12 at 2:30 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, Culver. Interment will be private.

Memorials may be made to the Indiana Lions Eye Bank, Culver Lions Club, Culver-Union Township EMS or any local Lions club for a project of their choice. The family requests no flowers or plants.

The Bonine-Odom Funeral Home, Culver, is in charge of the arrangements.

## Death Notice

### Mann

**Carrie F. Owens Mann**  
July 11, 1009

KNOX — Carrie F. Owens Mann, 84, of Knox, died Saturday, July 11, 2009.

She is survived by her husband, John C. Mann of Knox; her children: Bob Owens of Grovertown, Phil Owens of Knox, Tim Owens of Culver and Gail Sample of Hamlet; sisters and brothers: Opal Owens of North Judson, Evelyn Meyers of Monon, Angelo Back of Knox, Costalo Back of Florida and Roger Back of Walkerton; 13 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

Visitation took place Wednesday, July 15, 2009 at 11 a.m. at the M.C. Smith Funeral Home, Knox.

Funeral services took place Wednesday at 1 p.m. at the funeral home.

Burial followed at Crown Hill Cemetery.

## Letter to the editor

### Health care reform

Consider this reason why health-care insurance for everyone will benefit everyone:

1. It is a life-support system for everyone from unborn babies to hospice patients. Which one of these would you deny care to?

Consider this reason why health-care reform for charges would benefit everyone:

1. Only honest people who really care about the well being of others would enter the health-care field as a profession. Whom do you think should be able to over charge for a service or preform a procedure that is not necessary for the improvement of a patient's health?

Consider this reason why health-care reform should give every adult of sound mind the freedom to choose or refuse health care for their own person:

1. Freedom to choose what we accept and what we reject is what the Almighty One gives each of us. Should we give anyone less than to choose for himself whether he accepts or rejects health insurance?

For the above reasons I support President Obama's health-care reform perposal.

**Belva Scott**  
Culver

## Community Calendar

### Thurs., July 16

Fitness Class, 10:30 a.m., Culver Public Library  
Michael Doss, Culver town manager at Kiwanis Club, noon, Culver Public Library  
Culver Board of Zoning Appeals mtg., 6:30 p.m., town hall  
Knights of Columbus St. Mary of the Lake Council #13720 social mtg, 7 p.m., rectory basement

### Fri., July 17

Culver Kiwanis golf outing, 2 p.m. tee-off, Mystic Hills golf course  
Culver High School All-class reunion (through Sunday), Saturday evening at the Edgewater Grille  
Moonlight Serenade with Culver Academies Summer Naval School band, sunset, Lake Maxinkuckee west shore  
Culver Lake Fest begins (all weekend), Culver town park

### Sat., July 18

Culver Lake Fest contin-

ues (see schedule this issue)

The Culver Brownie Girl Scouts collecting for Humane Society, 2 to 4 p.m., Park N' Shop  
Carillon recital, 4 p.m., Culver Academies Memorial Chapel (see article this issue)

Woodcraft Camp Council Fire, 9 p.m., Council Ring  
Fireworks over Lake Maxinkuckee (Culver Lake Fest), 10 p.m., town park

### Sunday, July 19

Culver Lake Fest continues (see schedule this issue)  
Garrison Parade, 6:30 p.m., Culver Academies Parade Field  
Moonlight Serenade with Culver Academies Summer Naval School band, sunset, Lake Maxinkuckee east shore

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### Mon., July 20

Yoga class, 10 a.m., Culver Public Library  
Knitting Class, 5 p.m., Culver Public Library  
Computer class, 6 p.m., Culver Public Library  
DivorceCare, 7 p.m., Grace United Church of Christ

### Tues., July 21

Fitness class, 9 a.m., Culver Public Library  
Plan commission mtg., 6:30 p.m., town hall  
Culver Public Library board mtg., 7 p.m., Culver Public Library

### Weds., July 22

Genealogy mtg., 10 a.m., Culver Public Library  
Cyndi Cole, Purdue Extension office, noon, REAL Meals, beach lodge  
Yoga class, 5:30 p.m.,

Culver Public Library  
Lions Club mtg., 6:30 p.m., train station-depot

### Thurs., July 23

Fitness Class, 10:30 a.m., Culver Public Library  
Phil Harrison, Culver Academies, at Kiwanis Club, noon, Culver Public Library

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## Birth

### Cramer

Brent and Missy Cramer of Dunlap announce the birth of a son born June 3, 2009 at Elkart General Hospital. Blake Alexander Cramer weighed 8 pounds, 8 ounces and was 21 inches long.

He was welcomed home by two sisters: Cassandra, 5, and Sara, 3.

Maternal grandparents are Ray and Marge Hite of Plymouth. Paternal grandparents are Bert and Norma Cramer of Culver.

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## Where did they go?

Emmanuel VBS August 3-7

Years ago our Churches were filled with children. Today, most of the Churches have mostly older people. Where did our children go?

When I was young, most of our activities were centered around the Church, like softball, basketball, parties, etc, but now they are centered around the schools, soccer leagues, basketball leagues, baseball leagues and we stayed away from Church.



### Pastor's Corner

By Ron Lewellen  
Emmanuel  
United Methodist Church

Emmanuel United Methodist Church and the Culver Community Council of churches are doing something to get our children back.

We are having Vacation Bible School August 3 - 7, 2009 from 6 - 8 p.m. each evening. We will be having Bible teaching, singing, games, crafts, and snacks. We need children! Pre-school through 6th grade are invited to attend.

Our theme this year is: "Studio Go." It will be a studio setting where kids will experience teamwork, real service, and real fun. Each day at "Studio Go" kids will meet with someone from the Bible who decided to team up with God. They will see how God works in the lives of those who trust him, and will be challenged each day to: "Go Lead," "Go Risk," "Go Tell," "Go Obey," and "Go Serve." And through it all, kids will come to understand that with Jesus, everyone wins!

Along with Bible teachings, will be cool crafts, great snacks, good singing, and fun games.

So lets get our children back to Bible teachings and bring them to Vacation Bible School at Emmanuel Church, 401 S. Main Street, in Culver, Indiana.

Let's go! Studio go!

### 100 year ago July 15, 1909

The (grain) elevator will get in the first new wheat of the season tomorrow from either Will Houghton or L.C. Dillon.

J.O. Ferrier has sold five lots in his Assembly addition to Harley and Eva Davis (*Editor's note: these were lots south of Davis Street in Culver which once made up part of the massive Maxinkuckee Assembly Chautauqua grounds, which boasted its own post office, train station, hotel, and huge outdoor "Tabernacle."*) *The Chautauqua*

brought thousands annually to Culver from 1899 to 1907, after which it closed down).

For the big Union Sunday School picnic from Logansport to Culver for July 28, 30 coaches have been secured from the Vandalia railroad and will probably be divided up into three trains.

### 90 years ago July 16, 1919

An 18-foot diving tower has been erected at the boat house pier (*Editor's note: this probably refers to today's public beach area, where the former Morris --*

later Mosher -- boat house would be converted into the "bath house" which burned in the early 1930s and was replaced by today's beach lodge in 1937).

from 1943 to 1949, died July 7 at the Naval Hospital at Newport, Rhode Island.

### 25 years ago July 18, 1984

Indiana Attorney General Lnley E. Pearson will take part in the Lake Fest parade this weekend; musicians George Schricker, Bill Rudd and the Country Travelers, and the Maxinkuckee Players will perform as part of the festival at the Lake-side Cinema. Booth space is still available at the Lake Fest flea market. The 1984 Lae Fest Beauty Queen will also be crowned during the event.

### 80 years ago July 19, 1929

On the fourth of July under the auspices of the Maxinkuckee Yacht Club, Culver citizens witnessed their first boat regatta, held on the east side of the lake.

### 50 years ago July 15, 1959

Admiral Harry E. Yarnell, director of the Culver Academy Summer Naval School

## Name that Culver "citizen"



At left: Last week's Mystery Citizen, Heather Overmyer, then and now. Right: this week's mystery citizen.

Several readers immediately recognized last week's Mystery Citizen (including her own mother, which is a good thing!), Heather Overmyer, known to many young folks on teams she coaches -- past and present -- as "Coach O." For those of us past the days of youth sports, Heather has long been a familiar face at the Original Root Beer stand,



where she is manager, besides in a number of roles around the community over the years (it doesn't hurt that her parents, Mike and Connie Overmyer, are involved in everything from Lake Fest to Lions Club, Maxinkuckee Players to JMC Engineering. Correct guessers included Carin Clifton, Connie Overmyer, Maggie Nixon, Donna Schwartz, and Dottie Kissell.

This week's Mystery Citizen is another longtime community member who helps facilitate some pretty important functions for a number of Culverites, and is the only one, locally, who makes some of these services happen.

This week's correct guessers can attest to the exalted status of having their names in lights (speaking figuratively, of course) in the Citizen for their shrewd eyes. So, if free parking in downtown Culver isn't enough incentive for those readers considering making a guess, perhaps townwide renown will do the trick.



PHOTO SUBMITTED/DON BAKER

## And speaking of history mysteries...

Don Baker of Culver sent the above photo in hopes of uncovering some answers as to the identity of the people pictured here. The editor apologizes if readers have to get out their magnifying glasses to see faces, but such are the limits of page size after all. Don writes: "This is a photo of a talent show held at the Culver High School gymnasium in either 1936 or 1937. In the upper right corner you'll see my Grandfather JC Beck, age 22 or 23, peering over the shoulder of his cousins Harry and Tom Chaney, holding a guitar a violin (although I'm not certain which is which). 'We didn't play good, but we sure played loud,' Grandpa used to say.

"According to my grandmother Olive Beck, this was a traveling talent show in which local performers were invited to share their talents. The people on stage are a mix of traveling performers and local folks in search of their 15 minutes of fame.

"Does anyone recognize anyone else in this photo? If anyone knows anything more about this photo, I'd love to find out. Looking at the photo, I'm struck by the sheer number of people on stage and how involved the costumes are. I'm also amazed to see what look like kerosene lanterns so close to the curtains!"

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Name: bump; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 3 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00070197; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Bremen Chevrolet

Name: WKLY ADS; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 3 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00069816; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Overmyer Soft

Name: The Music Man; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 4 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00070351; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Maxinkuckee Players; Size: 8 in

Name: INSURANCE; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 4 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00071071; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Brockey Insurance; Size: 8 in



## Greenleaf from page A1

lis Motor Speedway was built in 1909, it wasn't until 1911 when the first Indianapolis 500 race was organized there. Winning driver Ray Harroun's Marmon car was nicknamed the "Wasp" because of its yellow and black color scheme, and sported the first rear-view mirror in the world. The Marmon's status, of course, only increased as a result.

"They did very well," recalls Greenleaf, "Indianapolis and Kokomo, of course, were car centers.

"When I was four months old in 1924, my father (Franklin) had grown up and went to MIT, and he was an automotive engineer, too. He designed a new brake for the Marmon cars. Uncle Howard said, 'That young man is too cocky,' and sent him out to Pike's Peak to test the brake, which Uncle Howard knew would work. (My father) drove back and got as far as Avon, Indiana. I've always heard he hit a 'T' in the road. The car turned over and it broke his neck...that was virtually the end of the Marmon automobile company. Uncle Howard always felt guilty



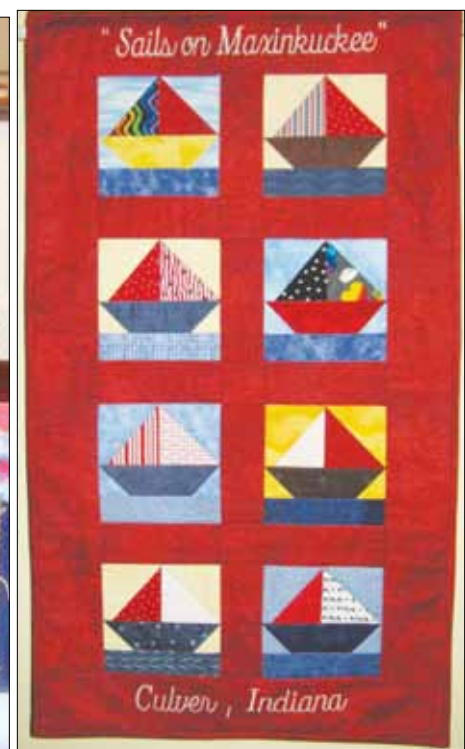
PHOTO SUBMITTED

## Quilting for their community

Culver's Wesley United Methodist Ladies Susanna Quilters have completed thirty quilts and donated them to Heminger House women's shelter in Plymouth. The quilts are all sizes and suitable for the women and children at the shelter.

At Wesley's April 19 worship service, Pastor Larry Saunders blessed and dedicated the quilts which were delivered to Heminger House Monday, April 20. Pictured above are Susanna Quilters (front row, left to right) June Koss and Elaine Averill; back row, Sharon Hartz, Barrie Hoskins, Jan Nannini, Rosalie Bonine and Judy Patton. Not all members of the quilting circle are pictured here.

At right, the quilters also donated this 19 by 34-inch wall quilt, "Sails on Maxinkuckee," to the Culver Boys & Girls Club auction last month.



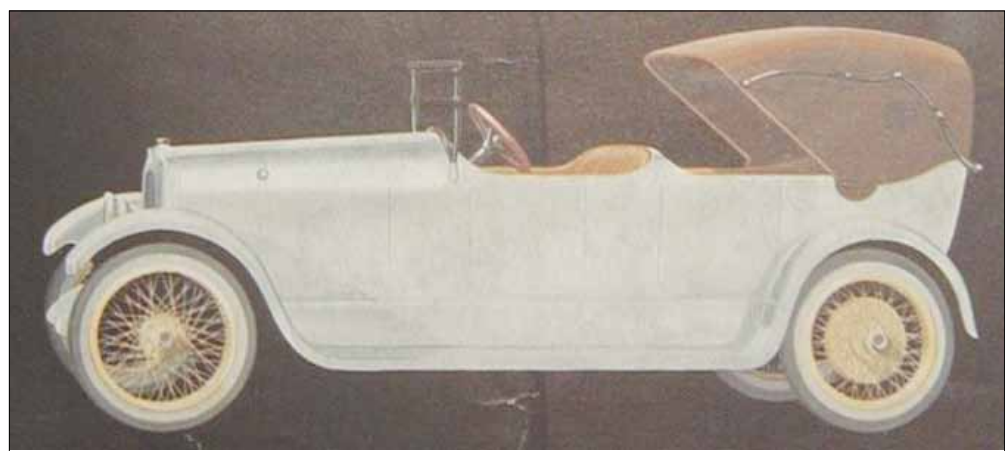
about that. Carl Fisher, who was with (Franklin in the accident), survived and was one of the ones who started the Indianapolis Motor Speedway."

Though the Marmon company – which up to the late 1920s sold cars to a wealthier class of buyers – introduced successful, lower-cost automobiles to the industry, the stock market crash of 1929 and subsequent Great Depression crippled a host of car makers of the day, the Marmon company among them.

"They were wonderful cars," says Greenleaf. "I saw a marvelous model of one at the New York branch of the Smithsonian museum (and) our oldest daughter's companion collects them now. There aren't that many of them left, of course, but they're being collected."

As for Franklin's daughter, Anne, she recalls wanting to be an architect, "and instead I got married and had five wonderful kids, which I loved."

Anne married the late Robert Greenleaf, who passed away in January, 2008, a respected professor (Emeritus) of Business



The Marmon 34, pictured here, was released in 1916 and was one of the fastest production cars in America, owing partly to its use of aluminum for its body and chassis, an innovation at the time.



CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY

Walter Carpenter Marmon

and Finance at the Graduate School of Business at Indiana University and IU-PUI. Greenleaf was author of a number of books and articles still used today in

his area of teaching, as well as an enthusiast of all things Maritime and member and supporter of a plethora of Indianapolis cultural and artistic entities. The couple had five children, seven grandchildren, and now two great-grandchildren.

"How the world has changed in many ways at Culver," says Anne. She recalls Maxinkuckee memories of visits to the general store on the western corner of 18B and East Shore Drive ("the water wheel is still there") for ice cream cones, the Bigley apple orchard, her children "with pennies for treats to the R and J and then Manor Market as Lillian sat with a bottle of vodka under the counter (and) wonderful parades

with the (Academy) band and horses.

"Gone is the Quality Grocery (in Culver) with the Straitters, Mr. Ts for ice cream and medicine, the Trone's store (and) Ben Franklin five and dime. We'd go out to Pinder's where the Marmont Grille is now, and Bill Taber's news agency -- with wonderful Bill Taber, who delivered papers all around the lake and still opened after supper.

The memories flood in, but Culver remains a beloved spot for Anne Greenleaf.

"It's mighty nice here," she concludes. "I adore this place and the people here."

Name: Lakefest; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 4 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00071013; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Edgewater Grille; Size: 8 in

Name: LAKE FEST; Width: 30p11.5; Depth: 10 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00071124; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Culver Portside Marina; Size: 30 in

Name: Culver Lake Fest; Width: 30p11.5; Depth: 8 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00071128; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Pratt's Floor Covering; Size: 24 in



# This weekend, Lake Fest helps bring 'Stars Over Maxinkuckee'

*Editor's note: This weekend brings Culver's 26th annual Lake Fest, whose theme is "Stars Over Maxinkuckee." The festival kicks off Friday evening and continues through Sunday afternoon, with a host of specific events on tap (see schedule this page). Last week's Citizen highlighted some specific components of this year's Lake Fest; below, more information regarding the festival is showcased.*

## Lake Fest's cherished annual parade showcases community

Always one of the most anticipated portions of Culver Lake Fest each year is the immensely popular parade, as usual launching at 10 a.m. Saturday, starting near downtown Culver. And, as in years past, parade spectators of all ages will be entertained by a host of entries, from police units from the town of Culver, Maxinkuckee Lake Patrol, Marshall County, and the state of Indiana, to rigs from the Culver-Union Township and Monterey fire departments and culver EMS. Culver's own VFW Post 6919 will be well represented, as will the Culver Pipes and Drums bag piping unit, the Culver Academies' girls' honor guard and drill team, Culver Academies' Color Guard for the Black Horse Troop, the Black Horse Troop itself, the Academies' drill team



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Culver Academies' summer schools will be represented again this year (participants are pictured here from last year's parade) as part of the beloved Lake Fest parade.

and drum and bugle corps, and the Marshall County 4H drill team, the latter (Academies and Marshall County) units consistent award-winners and popular entries in the parade each year.

Of course, Miss Maxinkuckee and Little Miss Maxinkuckee will be on hand, as will the Miss Maxinkuckee court and Miss Blueberry from Plymouth. And no Culver parade would be complete without the Culver Community High School Band.

Culver Community Schools are also expected to be represented by a float from this year's All-Class reunion, taking place over the weekend in a few different venues (see Briefs this issue).

The Indiana Racing Lions (remembered by many for their smaller-than-standard sized race cars) will join a number of local businesses, churches, political party representatives, antique cars, and individuals to round out this year's parade, and it's a safe bet the children of Culver will walk away with bagsful of candy procured from the wealth of it tossed street-side.

Another highlight, of course, will be this year's beloved parade marshal Sharon Coffey. A panel of judges will award the best entries, as always, as they wrap up the parade at the town park.

By Jeff Kenney  
Citizen editor

As in years past, festival-goers won't need to worry about going hungry, as several local and regional vendors will offer a wide array of food and drinks to accommodate virtually any taste at this year's Lake Fest. Amongst the vendors hailing from the Culver and nearby areas are Ken and Linda McCune from Monterey, who whose Klean Fun Foods will offer funnel cakes, shaved ice, and tenderloins. Linda is also the festival's food booth coordinator.

## Local and regional vendors provide food of all sorts

Several area churches will offer food prepared and served by members of their own congregations. Trinity Lutheran Church will sell hot dogs and nachos, the Wesley United Methodist Church will offer brats, and St. Mary of the Lake Catholic Church will again be selling pulled pork and baked potatoes.

A recent entry is Monterey-based Kerry Masters' Maggie Moos, whose ice cream many Culverites have sampled in recent weeks in the parking lot of Osborn's mini-mart on Lake Shore Drive.

Plymouth-based MaryLee's will offer Mexican food, Red Barn Elephant Ears from Rochester will sell that perennial festival favorite, and kettle corn from Goshen's 8. Kettle Masters Kettle Corn will be on hand. Offerings from other, regional vendors include pizza, Italian sausage, Philly steak sandwiches, Chinese and Asian food, smoothies, cappuccinos, salads, caramel corn and apples, taffy, and cotton candy.

## Popular car show returns



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Cars like this classic will once again be a part of the Lake Fest's annual car show.

This year's Lake Fest will, of course, boast the return of the event's ever-popular car show, scheduled for 9 a.m. Sunday, July 19, spearheaded as in years past by Glen Patton.

It's a safe bet a number of last year's favorites will be back, which last year included vintage antique entries such as Ralph Neff's 1930 Ford Model A, Bill and Nina Belk's 1934 Ford fire truck, Lapaz's first fire engine, and John Bennett's 1941 Chevy Coupe.

The fabulous "fifties" were represented by Zach Triplet's 2008 Best of Show-winning 1953 Custom Catania, Kevin Milliser's 1953 F-100 P/U truck, Dannie Hoffer's 1952 Belaire, and Zach Triplet's Pontiac 1953 Custom Catalina.

More recent – but still classic – entries included Randy Hoover's 1970 Camaro, Marlene Mahler's 1961 Thunderbird, Buzz and Joseph's 1969 Dodge Super Bee.

Judy Rogers' 1970 Mustang MACH I, , Dave and Cheryl Adams' 1970 MGB, and Ron

## 2009 Culver Lake Fest schedule

### Friday, July 17

**4 p.m.** Food, arts and crafts, games, informational booths open until 10 p.m.

**7 p.m.** Cheerleader competition near the beach lodge

**7 p.m.** Live entertainment, "Sound Wave" until 10 p.m.

10 p.m.

### Saturday, July 18

**5:30 a.m.** Registration for Bass Fishing family tournament, West Shore public landing until 7 a.m.

**6 a.m.** Pancake & Sausage Breakfast – Train Depot

**6:30 a.m.** Sign up for Annual Lake Fest Fun Run – Beach Lodge - Contact – Jake & Jason Sturman

**7 a.m.** Bass Fishing Family Tournament – Until 11 a.m. (weigh in at VFW Pier)

**7:15 a.m.** Lake Fest 1 Mile Fun Run

**7:30 a.m.** Lake Fest 2 Mile Walk and 5 Mile Run

**9 a.m.** Parade Registration – Corner of Slate & College (closes at 10 a.m.)

**9 a.m.** Food, arts and crafts, games, commercial and informational booths open until 11 p.m.

**10 a.m.** 25th annual

Culver Lake Fest parade (Parade marshal: Sharon Coffey). Awards given one hour after parade ends at the information booth

**11 a.m.** Bass Fishing family tournament weigh in and awards (weigh in at VFW Pier)

**11 a.m.** Kids Games

**11 a.m.** Ping pong tournament, beach lodge

**11:30 a.m.** Tube Race, beach

**1 p.m.** Penny find, beach

**1:30 p.m.** Pedal tractor pull, train depot

See Schedule page B3

Name: Lakefest; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 4 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00070977; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: The Bike Shop; Size: 8 in

Name: Culver Lake Fest; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 4 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00071130; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Bonine-Odom Funeral Home; Size: 8 in

Name: Lake Fest - Corn Roast; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 4 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00071126; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Culver Lions Club; Size: 8 in

Name: LAKE FEST; Width: 30p11.5; Depth: 5 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00071080; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Town & Country Liquors; Size: 15 in

Name: Culver Lakefest; Width: 30p11.5; Depth: 5 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00070991; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: JMC ENGINEERS & ASSOCIATES; Size: 15 in

# LOCAL

## Culver Kiwanis announces two summer fundraisers

Culver Kiwanis will host its annual Children's Youth Programs Charity Golf Scramble at the Pete and PB Dye-designed Mystic Hills Golf Club July 17. Registration check-in is at noon. Players tee off at 2 p.m.

Julie Bess, event organizer, says this year's tournament represents the 12th year of hosting the event.

"We have several returning teams and some new teams this year, so we expect the competition to be tough, but the same fun as past years. We'll be offering teams incentives for better scores. For example, men can purchase 'skirts' on one hole and tee off from the ladies tees, and the women will have an advantage on that hole as well."

To date, friends and asso-

ciates of Culver have helped Culver Kiwanis raise more than \$38,000 through its golf tournaments. President of Kiwanis Grant Munroe says, "That money is returned to the community in the form of scholarships and donations to children's organizations, such as the local Culver Boys and Girls Club. This year's funds will benefit local youth organizations and Riley Hospital for Children."

Entry fees for a team of four are \$260 or \$65 per individual. The fees include 18 holes of golf with a cart and range time, a meal after the tournament, soft drinks, the awards reception, door prizes, and favors. Hole and prize sponsorships are also being sought. Hole sponsorships are \$150 per hole. To enter a team,

sponsor a hole, or donate prizes, contact Julie Bess at 574-216-4205.

Munroe adds, "If you can't make it out to the golf outing, pick up a ticket for our Cash Is King Raffle."

This year, Kiwanis is sponsoring a cash raffle. "Last year, we raffled off two electric cars, but we decided to raffle cash this year. With the economy the way it is, we thought our supporters might want a chance to win a pile of cash," says Munroe.

The tickets for the Cash Is King raffle are \$20 a piece or three for \$50. Participants in the drawing purchase tickets. If their name is drawn, they win exactly half of the money raised with the sale of the tickets. The drawing is on July 19 at Lakefest at 3 p.m. Tick-

ets can be purchased from Park and Shop, Osborn's Mini Mart, or First Farmer's Bank and Trust. Several Kiwanis members will also be selling tickets.

"If we sell \$10,000 worth of tickets, the winner will receive \$5,000," says Munroe, "and of course, if we sell thousands of dollars more, the amount of the winnings will go up. It's a great time to win a pile of cash, so get your tickets. Support of either of these fundraisers has an impact on the youth in our community, so we hope you'll come enjoy a round of golf or purchase a ticket."

The Indiana gaming license number for the raffle is 117200.

## St. Mary's Khorman bids Culver farewell

By Jeff Kenney  
Citizen editor



CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY  
Fr. Glenn Khorman chats with parishioner Gloria Labno at a July 12 farewell party in his honor.

Khorman has been involved in the Culver community well beyond the church doors, serving on the board of the Culver Boys & Girls Club, teaching physics and co-teaching History of Christianity with then-chaplain Tom Steffen at Culver Academies, and acting as an adjunct faculty at Ancilla College near Plymouth, teaching Ethics, Algebra, Philosophy, and Old and New Testament courses (he holds a Masters degree in mechanical engineering from Purdue University).

Raised in New Haven, Indiana, Khorman's first assignment as a parish priest was St. Patrick's, an inner city church in Fort Wayne. His new parish – at which he begins August 4 – is a somewhat similar one, which he acknowledges is "a lot different than Culver," but which he says "always provides many opportunities to meet the needs of people in a very challenging way. It comes with its own challenges for sure."

Khorman says the Culver community welcomed him, both in the town of Culver and at the Academies, where he was chaplain to the school's Catholic population and conducted weekly Masses at the Memorial Chapel on campus.

Khorman's tenure at St. Mary's was also marked by an effort at the parish's involvement in Culver's Council of Churches and to hold ecumenical services of a variety of sorts throughout the years. During his time here, he also helped establish Culver's first local Knights of Columbus council, which has in turn become involved in a number of community efforts, spearheading the annual Christmas tree lighting in the town park and contributing to local and regional charities by way of its Tootsie Roll drive each year.

Khorman says St. Mary's is also in the process of establishing a St. Vincent de Paul Society locally, spearheaded by parishioners Chris and Kathleen Kline and David and Charlotte Girard and aimed at collaborating with Culver's food pantry and "serving the needs of those struggling in these economic times," explains Khorman.

At St. Mary's, Khorman initiated several new features including a weekly Bible study, a "Pastor on the Porch" discussion series, movie nights, a parish picnic, the church's annual golf outing and silent auction (coming again this August) and several week-long parish missions.

"Culver's been a great community," Khorman says. "It's been a wonderful time to have spent eight years of my ministry here. Culver will always provide good memories of my ministry. It's been a great place with great people... just a great community."

Monsignor Thadeus Balinda, the newest priest assigned to the parish, begins at St. Mary's August 4.

## Wesley community picnic, auction return

For the second year in a row, members of Culver's Wesley United Methodist Church are inviting the community to the church's community picnic and auction Sunday, August 9 at the depot-train station at the town park.

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The picnic itself will 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., while a host of home-made pies and other items will go up for auction starting at 12:30 p.m. Amongst the items up for auction: four club box seats for the Cubs vs. Mets, August 30; 12 premium seats for a Fort Wayne Mad Ants basketball game; flowers from Elizabeth's Garden; dinner at the Pinder's; a pie a month for six months; a "Sails on Lake Maxinkuckee" 27 by 39-inch wall quilt; Esther Powers Miller watercolor prints of Culver scenes, and much more.

Donations for the food pantry will be welcome for the meal, and activities for children will be provided.

Last year's event proved to be a welcome community happening, as this year's likely will be as well.

Those with questions may call the church at 574-842-2900.

Name: FULL BUY NOW & WIN; Width: 62p8; Depth: 10 in; Color: Black plus one; File Name: 00071077; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Kankakee Valley Ford; Size: 60 in



# Culver's Allyn takes golf tourney trophy



PHOTO PROVIDED  
Culver's Addyson Allyn poses with his trophy after winning his age group in a Marshall County Junior Golf Tour event at Mystic Hills last week.

Culver's Addyson Allyn won the Boys 10-11 group with a 29 at the Marshall County Junior Golf Tour tourney at Mystic Hills in Culver., followed in order by Triton's Gregory Music, Bremen's Camden Lindsey and LaVille's Michael Butler. St. Michael's John Shenk and LaVille's Aaron Berger both shot 25s to finish one and two, respectively, in the Boys 8-9 division at Mystic Hills, while Bremen's Lauren Read and Morgan Oberly finished in the one and two spots in the Girls 8-11 group, followed by Walkerton's Anna Schmeltz, then St. Michael's Lauren Kolter and Emily Listenberger. Mandy McPherron shot a 60 to take runner-up honors in the Girls 12-14 division, while fellow Plymouth native Ben Schenk took second in the Boys 12-13 contest ahead of LaVille's Zach Gurtner.

Plymouth's Patrick Felke and Lane Singleton shot respective scores of 73 and 89 to finish first and second in the Boys 14-15 division.

Triton's Jareemiah Kinsey came in at 91 to round out the top three in the division, while fellow Trojan Taran Kennedy shot an 85 to take third in the Boys 16-17 group, ahead of Bremen's Matt Ringle in fifth place.

Plymouth's Erin Kinney carded an 86 to win the Girls 15-17 division ahead of teammate Allison Bayley, who claimed third in the age group.

Also at the event, Triton's Dane Kennedy finished eighth in the Boys 16-17 group ahead of Plymouth's Michael Treat in ninth.

## 42nd annual Culver Tennis Tournament August 8 and 9



PHOTO SUBMITTED  
1993 champs John and Bill Adams, sons of one of the original 1960s players, Fred Adams, stand on either side of another frequent trophy winner Mark Tanquey and his formidable partner Dick Fisher.

The Culver Invitational Tennis Tournament was started in the 1960s by a group of Culver Community tennis enthusiasts who wanted to have a friendly competition in a sport they loved. It has been held almost every year since then. Through the generosity of the Culver Academies, the tournament is held at the Academies' tennis courts.

All ages gather for play and spectators enjoy the competition. There are fun traditions off the court too. The "Friends of Tennis" provide Wimbledon style blueberries and cream and the awards pot luck dinner is a great way to recap the highlights of the weekend.

We would like to invite all interested tennis players to join us for this friendly community competition. The tournament is for beginner intermediate and advanced players, age 15 and up. The fee is \$10 per player.

Play on Saturday, August 8 is for women's doubles, women's singles, men's doubles and men's singles. It's mixed doubles Sunday, August 9, and trophies are presented.

If interested visit the event website at [www.culvertennis.com](http://www.culvertennis.com) or contact Jodie Schroeder at 574-842-3940 or [jodieschroe@aol.com](mailto:jodieschroe@aol.com)

## Free computer classes at Culver Public Library

The Culver-Union Township Public Library will offer a summer session of computer classes for beginners. The classes last four weeks and cover basic operation of a computer, using the Internet, and E-Mail. Classes are scheduled for Monday evenings at 6 p.m. and Friday mornings at 10 a.m.; each class session lasts two hours.

These are hands-on classes and the library will provide computers. If you have your own laptop computer, feel free to bring it to the classes. Registration is not required. This is a special four-week course for beginners. The library will offer its regular course featuring Microsoft Office again in the fall.

Classes for June and the first week of July include:  
-Computers for Beginners Part I: July 20 at 6 p.m. and July 24 at 10 a.m.  
-Computers for Beginners Part II: July 27 at 6 p.m. and July 31 at 10 a.m.  
-Internet: August 3 at 6 p.m. and August 7 at 10 a.m.  
-E-Mail: August 10 at 6 p.m. and August 14 at 10 a.m.

For more information, call the Culver Library at 574-842-2941, visit its website at [www.culver.lib.in.us](http://www.culver.lib.in.us) or e-mail [abaker@culver.lib.in.us](mailto:abaker@culver.lib.in.us). The library's street address is 107 N. Main Street.

## Wood carving, rag doll making on tap at library

As part of the Culver-Union Township Library's Adult summer reading program, "Master the Art of Reading," two events have been planned for the public. On Saturday, July 18, at 2 p.m., Cary Flora of Culver will demonstrate wood carving techniques. Cary is part of a group of wood-carvers in Plymouth and the group is currently working on a round barn which will be available for display in the near future.



Cary Flora

Flora's saloon and bar room characters were displayed at the library two years ago, and the wooden carvings delighted young and old alike. Flora's carving techniques will be demonstrated with the use of bar soap and sweet potatoes. In this class, attendees will learn how to carve into a bar of soap and also a sweet potato, using a shrinking solution to actually change the size of the potato. He says he has a surprise up his sleeve for participants.

In a second program on Saturday, August 1, at 2:30 p.m., the Library will be offering Marizetta's Rag Doll Making Class. Marizetta Kenney will show her collection of dolls gathered over the years, and a show us how to make a doll from plain cotton fabric. More details on this program will follow in the coming weeks.

All library programs are free and open to the public and will take place in the large meeting room at 107 N. Main Street in Culver, Indiana. For more information, call 574-842-2941.

# Library news Culver Library one of 269 nationwide to receive NEA grant

Culver-Union Township Public Library (CUTPL) announced it has received a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to host The Big Read in Culver. CUTPL is one of 269 nonprofits -- including arts, culture, and science organizations; libraries; and municipalities -- to receive a grant to host a Big Read project between September 2009 and June 2010. The latest Big Read grantees represent 44 states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Since the 2006 pilot program with ten participating organizations, the NEA has given more than 800 grants to support local Big Read projects.

"The Big Read highlights not only literature, but also what can be accomplished in partnership," said NEA Acting Chairman Patrice Walker Powell. "I'm grateful to IMLS, Arts Midwest, and the many many nonprofits, local governments, and media outlets around the country that have partnered with the NEA to present hundreds of Big Read projects nationwide. We welcome our new community partners to The Big Read family and look forward to continuing this transformative dialogue between neighbors and across borders."

The selected organizations will receive Big Read grants ranging from \$2,500 to \$20,000 to promote and carry out community-based reading programs featuring activities such as read-a-thons, book discussions, lectures, movie screenings, and performing arts events. Participating communities also receive high-quality, free-of-charge educational materials to supplement each title, including reader's, teacher's, and audio guides.

The Big Read gives communities the opportunity to come together to read, discuss, and celebrate one of 30 selections from U.S. and world literature. The Big Read in Culver will focus on "The Bridge of San Luis Rey" and "Our Town" by Thornton Wilder. Activities will take place early September to mid-November.

CUTPL Board President James Hahn gave a thumbs up, "Read - it's big!" Library Director Colleen McCarty says, "We are thrilled that CUTPL has been awarded a federal grant to promote literacy in our community, with a particular focus on encouraging young males to read the classics. This is an important event in Culver's continuing story. Culver is a vibrant community, and the history of our town is still being written!"

Project Manager Polly Thompson Wolf, who wrote the grant says, "You wouldn't believe how things fell together. Our community should be proud of itself. Because of our unique character and active community involvement, we were able to secure this very prestigious grant. We told the story of our community, and The Big Read grantors awarded our town a \$14,000 grant. Out of the 30 authors, we chose Thornton Wilder's 'The Bridge of San Luis Rey' because it offered us the opportunity to do the play 'Our Town.'

"Situated on the shores of beautiful Lake Maxinkuckee, Culver-Union Twp. is comprised of several distinct components which each contribute to the unique character of our community. It is the mission of the Culver-Union Twp. Public Library 'to serve the diverse needs of our communities through the sharing of library resources and services in a welcoming atmosphere.' And we anticipate that The Big Read will help us to achieve our mission by fostering interaction among the various elements of our community through cooperative events and activities."

But Hahn probably sums it up best: "Putting a classic book in the hands of our citizens helps us to accomplish our mission."

For more information about The Big Read please visit [www.neabigread.org](http://www.neabigread.org). For information on Culver-Union Township Public Library's events, visit [www.culver.lib.in.us](http://www.culver.lib.in.us).

## Schedule from page B1

**2:30 p.m.** Turtle race/frog jumping, beach lodge  
**3 p.m.** Sidewalk chalk etching, beach lodge  
**3:30 p.m.** Sand sculpture, beach lodge  
**4 p.m.** Watermelon eating, beach lodge  
**4 p.m.** Tricycle race, basketball court (tricycles provided)  
**4:30 p.m.** Limbo Contest, beach lodge  
**11:30 a.m.** Golf cart decorating contest, beach lodge

**1 p.m.** Wake board show  
**1:30 p.m.** Fireman's waterball contest, in front of the Culver Fire Department Building  
**2 p.m.** Live entertainment: "Doc Roc featuring Myles Pinder," West Pavilion until 5 p.m.  
**5 p.m.** Corn hole toss contest, basketball Court  
**7 p.m.** Live entertainment: "Steve Foresman," West pavilion until 11 p.m.  
**10 p.m.** Spectacular fireworks display over Lake

Maxinkuckee  
**Sunday July 19**  
**6 a.m.** Pancake and sausage breakfast, train depot  
**7 a.m.** L'MAX bike ride (10, 35, 60, and 100 mile routes)  
**8 a.m.** Community church service, west pavilion  
**9 a.m.** Car show registration, FNB of Monterey until 11 a.m.  
**9 a.m.** 2009 Car show until 2 p.m.  
**9 a.m.** Food, arts and

crafts, commercial and informational booths open until 2 p.m.  
**11 a.m.** Burn out registration, West Mill Street until 1 p.m.  
**1 p.m.** Ski show, hosted by Culver Academies Summer Camps  
**1 p.m.** Car Show awards  
**2 p.m.** 2009 Burn out contest, West Mill Street (food provided by the Culver Lion's Club)

Name: RESERVATIONS/GIFTS; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 4 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00069793; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Culver Reservations; Size: 8 in

Name: METRO; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 4 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00069794; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: City Tavern; Size: 8 in

Name: internet trade; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 4 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00068504; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Culcom, LLC; Size: 8 in



# LOCAL

## A summer splash

### Longer river trips give Culver Woodcrafters a more challenging scenic adventure

By Doug Haberland  
Culver Alumni  
Magazine editor  
Two years of planning  
for a 15-mile canoe trip  
seems like a lot of prepara-

their unit. But as much fun  
as the destination is, river  
trips are all about the jour-  
ney.

Fifty years ago there  
were three-to-four-day trips

Woodcrafters to have a little  
more of that experience.

"I think the challenge is  
the most important ben-  
efit the river trips bring to  
the Woodcraft experience.  
Woodcrafters face chal-  
lenges every day, but most  
of them are relatively mod-  
est compared to paddling  
15 miles on a river," Meek  
said. This is especially true  
when "you've discovered  
you won't get a patch, bar,  
or banner for reaching Bea-  
son."

Meek is happy the trips  
involve sore muscles, blis-  
ters, heat, bugs, dirt, and  
a good deal of perspira-  
tion. The longer trips help  
Woodcrafters discover they  
are more capable and stron-  
ger physically, mentally,  
and emotionally than they  
realize, he said.

"They are tired. They are  
sore," he said, and some  
don't enjoy it. "But a lot of  
kids rise to the challenge.  
It creates confidence and  
self-assurance." Meek also  
likes that the only reward  
"is the joy and sense of ac-  
complishment that comes  
from successfully meeting  
a challenge."

Paddling down "the Tip-  
py" may not be much of a



PHOTO/CULVER ACADEMIES COMMUNICATIONS

Meek leads Woodcrafters in practice canoeing on Lake Maxinkuckee.



PHOTO/CULVER ACADEMIES COMMUNICATIONS

Bob Meek.

tion, but the success of last  
summer's extended Wood-  
craft river trips have "a sig-  
nificance beyond one day,"  
according to director Bob  
Meek.

Again this summer, all  
Beaver and Cardinal units  
will be making the 15-mile  
venture down the Tippeca-  
noe River to Beason Mem-  
orial Park. Butterflies and  
Cubs take a four-mile trip to  
Culver's 43-acre property  
on the river, where campers  
sleep in canvas wall tents,  
run the open fields, and  
spend their evening with a  
cookout, bonfire, s'mores,  
and a chance to relive the  
challenge of the trip with

on the river with camping  
along the way. Those got  
scaled back to the 15-mile  
trips in the early '80s, and  
eventually became a four-  
mile afternoon trip.

"That's a lot of effort for  
damn little canoeing," said  
Meek, who proposed "mak-  
ing the trips longer, more  
challenging, and more of  
an adventure." He is used  
to two- and three-week can-  
oe trips in the Canadian  
wilderness and spent 35  
years at a wilderness trip-  
ping camp in northern Min-  
nesota before joining the  
Culver staff three summers  
ago. Meek knows the value  
of a longer trip, and wanted

thrill for campers who have  
rafted the Grand Canyon,  
but "for most of the 650  
campers the river trip is an  
adventure. It is an opportu-  
nity to see and spend some  
time in at least semi-wild  
country. The Tippecanoe is  
civilized compared to most  
of the rivers in Canada's can-  
oe country, but if you have  
seen the excitement gener-  
ated when campers spot  
turtles sunning themselves  
on logs or see a Great Blue  
Heron soaring overhead,  
you would know that for  
most of the youngsters on

the trip, this is a wilderness  
experience," Meek said.

Campers and counselors  
seem to agree.

Spencer Ulrich (D&B)  
of Logansport, Ind., said  
the extended trip gave  
him more time with fel-  
low campers. "It was more  
of a workout, but I didn't  
mind."

"We found out that we  
could make it much farther  
than we thought," Cardinal  
Sarah Stackhouse (Ellicott  
City, Md.) said. "Even with  
the lunch break at (Tippe-  
canoe) State Park, we were

tired by the time we reached  
Beason. And staying there  
in the tents was one of the  
best nights of camp."

Counselor Frankie Brun-  
'05 (Oscoda, Mich.) said  
the extended trip "are a  
great opportunity for both  
campers and counselors to  
get away from their rigor-  
ous Woodcraft schedule and  
be able to relax and open up  
to one another."

*This article is reprinted  
with permission from the  
Spring-Summer edition of  
the Culver Alumni Maga-  
zine.*

### Briefs, from page 1

July 17 due to Lake Fest.  
Interested persons are in-  
vited to share a meal with  
the group Wednesday, July  
22 when Cyndi Cole of the  
Purdue Extension Office  
will discuss dairy-related  
topics. State Representa-  
tive Nancy Dembowski  
will chat with attendees  
Wednesday, July 29, and  
those interested are invited.  
Lunch is served at noon  
with guest speakers begin-  
ning at 12:30 p.m.

Those interested in at-  
tending are asked to call  
Ruth Walker at the nutri-  
tion site (the Culver beach  
lodge) before 11 a.m. the  
day before for reservations  
at 574-842-8878. There is  
a suggested donation of  
\$3.50 for each meal.

### Town accepting credit, debit cards

The Town of Culver  
will be accepting credit

and debit cards beginning  
July 16, 2009. This ser-  
vice can be utilized within  
the Clerk's Office located  
at Town Hall, by phone at  
1-866-480-8552, or web  
page at [www.townofculver.org](http://www.townofculver.org). Please know that you  
must have your utility ac-  
count number, ticket num-  
ber, etc. The town will ac-  
cept Visa, MasterCard and  
Discover. A convenience  
fee is assessed to each credit  
and debit card transaction.

### Book and film group meets August 5

The Culver-Union Twp.  
Public Library's monthly  
program, "A Novel Ap-  
proach," will take place  
Wednesday, August 5 at  
12:15 p.m. The book, "Girl  
with a Pearl Earring" by  
Tracy Chevalier, will be  
discussed and the movie of  
the same title screened at  
the library. The book club

meets at the library's large  
meeting room, located  
downstairs by the computer  
lab. Participants may bring  
a bag lunch to the program;  
the library will provide cof-  
fee and tea. Call the Culver  
Library at 574-842-2941  
for more information or e-  
mail [staff@culver.lib.in.us](mailto:staff@culver.lib.in.us).

### Wesley preschool registration

Wesley Preschool, a non-  
denominational preschool,  
has openings in its senior  
and junior year program.  
Seniors must be age four  
by Aug. 1 and juniors age  
three by Aug. 1. Wesley  
helps ease the transition for  
children to begin kindergar-  
ten by starting them in its  
exceptional preschool. Call  
Jennifer Luttrell, Director,  
at (574) 250-3852.

### MCJFL sign-ups

The Marshall County Ju-  
nior Football League will  
hold only two more sign-  
ups for junior football and  
junior cheerleading. The  
date is July 25 from 10 a.m.  
to 3 p.m. at the Culver El-  
ementary School. To sign  
up, interested persons must  
have a birth certificate. Any  
questions, please call Angel  
at 574-242-8175.

### Culver Basketball Skill Camp

There is still time to re-  
gister for the Culver Basket-  
ball Skill Camp, to be held  
August 9-13. For the past  
five years, over 100 camp-  
ers yearly have enjoyed  
NBA- and College-level  
instruction on the campus  
of the Culver Academies.  
Coaches Kevin Wilson, All-  
American, Detroit Pistons  
and University of Minne-  
sota coach; Todd Landrum  
CBA, college and Minne-

sota Timberwolves coach;  
along with a group of for-  
mer players and coaches,  
will be instructing on the  
courts of the five indoor  
gyms at Culver. Day Camp-  
ers and Overnight Campers,  
both boys and girls ages  
10-13, are welcome. Camp  
includes nearly eight hours  
daily of instruction, t-shirt,  
camp ball, camper evalua-  
tion, meals, swimming and  
lots of fun. Call Chet Mar-  
shall 574 842-8072 or email  
[marshac@culver.org](mailto:marshac@culver.org) to sign  
up or for more information.  
Group and family discounts  
are available.

### Sunfish Regatta

#### sets sail July 18

The seventh annual Lake  
Maxinkuckee Sunfish Re-  
gatta sets sail Saturday, July  
18. The all-ages, free event  
is hosted at the John Zeglis  
cottage at 1614 East Shore  
Drive on Maxinkuckee's  
shores. The regatta will  
launch from the Zeglis pier  
with registration starting at  
10 a.m., a skipper's meet-  
ing at 10:30, and the race  
kickoff between 10:45 and  
11 a.m. The event will end  
by 2 p.m. More information  
may be obtained by email-  
ing John Zeglis at [john@jzeglis.com](mailto:john@jzeglis.com).

### Citizen contact info

Drop-off boxes for com-  
munity news are located at  
the Culver-Union Town-  
ship Public Library and the  
Culver Coffee Company on  
Lake Shore Dr. These box-  
es will be accessible during  
the locations' normal busi-  
ness hours.

Citizen editor Jeff Ken-  
ney may be reached at  
574-216-0075. News can  
be sent by e-mail to: [citi-  
zen@culcom.net](mailto:citizen@culcom.net).

### REAL Services menu

Those interested in shar-  
ing a meal at REAL Meals  
are asked to call Ruth  
Walker at the nutrition site  
(the Culver beach lodge)  
before 11 a.m. on the day  
before for reservations,  
at 574-842-8878. There is  
a suggested donation of  
\$3.50 for each meal.

**Thursday, July 16:**  
Closed for Lake Fest.

**Friday, July 17:** Closed  
for Lake Fest.

**Monday, July 20:**  
Smoked Sausage, pepper  
and onions, mashed pota-  
toes, peas and carrots, bun,  
apple, and milk.

**Tuesday, July 21:** Coun-  
try Fried Steak, white gravy,  
rice, spinach, pound cake,  
strawberries, and milk.

**Wednesday, July 22:**  
Meatloaf, baby bakers, sour  
cream, bread and margar-  
ine, green beans, peaches,  
and milk.

**Thursday, July 23:**  
Chicken Patty, bread, red  
potatoes, broccoli, peach  
pie, and milk.

**Friday, July 17:** Sloppy  
Joe, bun, corn, tossed sal-  
ad with tomato, dressing,  
pears, and milk.

Name: VISIT, VIEW, PURCHASE; Width:  
20p4.667; Depth: 8 in; Color: Black; File  
Name: 00070193; Ad Number: -; Customer  
Name: Pilot News; Size: 16 in

Name: CULVER STIM; Width: 20p4.667;  
Depth: 4 in; Color: Black; File Name:  
00070099; Ad Number: -; Customer Name:  
Lowry's Carpet Care & Flooring; Size: 8 in

Name: MOONLIGHT SERENADE; Width:  
20p4.667; Depth: 4 in; Color: Black; File  
Name: 00071072; Ad Number: -; Customer  
Name: Culver Academies; Size: 8 in

Name: WEEK 4; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 4  
in; Color: Black; File Name: 00069602; Ad  
Number: -; Customer Name: Lakeside Auto  
Supply; Size: 8 in



# Chasing Maxinkuckee dreams

## Semler's balloon carries young and old on winds over Culver



PHOTO/LYNN SEMLER

Above: A view from the basket: looking up into the billows of Semler's multicolored balloon.

Below: 'Maxinkuckee Dreams' shot from above, from the AM 1050 balloon with which it shared Culver skies in June.



PHOTO SUBMITTED

By Jeff Kenney  
Citizen editor

A Notre Dame student, within the last two weeks, proposed to his future wife in a very public space in the Lake Maxinkuckee area, and few if any Culverites were able to see it, except from a (very noticeable) distance. That's because the happy couple were somewhere between 300 and 700 feet above the lake, riding in a hot air balloon piloted by Federal Express pilot and company examiner Jack Semler, a Westfield resident who is also a homeowner in Culver for the past 12 years.

Of course, hot air balloons have made their way into the skies over Lake Maxinkuckee from time to time before, but not under the guidance of a local resident offering rides here on a regular basis.

The balloon business, as one might guess, is really more of a side hobby for Semler, but it's clearly one in which he takes delight, offering rides to any interested, paying customer in recent weeks and over coming weekends until the

end of summer, including a tether ride for the Culver Academies' upcoming family camp and at this year's Blueberry Festival in Plymouth.

According to Semler and the website of his company, Indy Hot Air ([www.indy-hotair.com](http://www.indy-hotair.com)), most hot air balloons – like sailing ships – have names, in this case “Chasing Dreams,” a 2000 Aerostar Industries balloon. With a volume of 90,000 cubic feet, standing 70 feet tall and 60 feet wide.

Jack Semler says he's been flying professionally for 24 years now, with three seasons piloting hot air balloons. Ballooning caught his fancy on his first date with his wife 15 years ago, which included a balloon ride over California's Napa Valley. “After four kids,” he notes, “we found a break in our life where I could pursue it. My oldest son John, who is 10, is one of our crew chiefs. He'll start taking lessons and could solo at 14 and get his ballooning pilot's license at 16.”

Typically, explains Semler, a balloon must be flown in the first two or last two

hours of the day when winds are their calmest. Test balloons are sent up first to check the direction of the wind over the lake, which will determine Semler's launch site. Balloons are steered by altitude only, he says, with higher altitudes of 700 feet or so leaving the balloon subject solely to the wind's direction. Riders help participate in the flight by helping set up for the minimum one-hour excursion, with a champagne toast for passengers after landing.

About half Semler's business, he says, is actually engagement flights like the Notre Dame students' Father's Day occasion, which more than one Culver resident noticed over the lake that morning, causing understandable excitement in the community. Which is not to say the single or already-married won't find plenty of motivation to take a look at Culver and Lake Maxinkuckee from 500 feet above.

Besides the aforementioned website, Jack Semler may be reached at [pilot@indyhotair.com](mailto:pilot@indyhotair.com).



PHOTO/ANDY SCHULLER

'Maxinkuckee Dreams' shares the sky on Father's Day with the AM 1050 balloon, as photographed by Andy Schuller of Culver.



# Stamp collecting and Culver's contribution to the birth of airmail

By Bob Quakenbush  
Culver Academies  
Campaign Communications  
Coordinator

Gathered in the southwest corner of the Huffington Library, the Stamp Club at Culver engaged in its ongoing quest to discover, appreciate, and collect the small and fragile "mementoes of history" known as postage stamps.

Stamps, of course, are only thin bits of paper with gummed adhesive on the back, so the students handle them with great care. Each Stamp Club member has an archival stock book to protect their personal collection. With clear plastic pockets, stock books are one of the safest means of storing stamps. While examining interesting or valuable stamps from Culver's collection, the students use such tools of the trade as magnifying glasses and stamp tongs (similar to tweezers) with rounded tips to prevent damage from rough handling or skin oils.

Stamp collecting offers collectors opportunities to discover all kinds of interesting things about the history and culture of not only the United States but countries around the world. For example,

The first postage stamp, the Penny Black, was issued by Britain in 1840 and pictured a young Queen Victoria. Stamp collecting likely began that very day.

The first American stamp was issued on July 1, 1847, cost five cents, and featured a portrait of the nation's first postmaster, Benjamin Franklin.

Collections at Culver  
Culver is fortunate to benefit from the generosity of donors who have given many interesting and valuable collections to the school: art, autographs, and books. Joe Levy, class of

'43, to cite one example, has generously donated a number of his collections to Culver, including an extensive autograph collection. Another interesting collection is the Napoleonic memorabilia donated by Frederic S. Bancroft '51. The collection includes books, prints, paintings, and bronzes about the famed 19th-century Emperor of France who finally met his Waterloo. As a result, Culver's campus offers a museum-like dimension that permits students opportunities to study and develop an appreciation for a wide range of art and knowledge. While one benefit to donors of collections to an educational institution such as Culver is a tax deduction, the donors' primary motivation is to expand the minds of Culver students by introducing them to something they personally consider very special.

Donors have also bestowed on the school a growing collection of postage stamps. One donated a collection of stamps commemorating the Olympics. The cornerstone of Culver's stamp collection is a gift of a superlative collection of stamps from an anonymous donor who is such an avid collector of stamps he personally drove the collection to Culver!

The Stamp Club's faculty adviser is John Babcock, class of '58, a retired master instructor emeritus in mathematics with a passion for stamp collecting. Babcock, who taught at Culver for 41 years, said the Stamp Club introduces Culver students to an interesting and most educational hobby. "It's a learning hobby, where you can learn geography, history, politics, presidents," he said.

There are two basic categories of stamps: definitive and commemorative,

he explained.

Definitive stamps are "regular issue stamps" that often include a portrait of a president and the price of the stamp. One current example of a definitive stamp is the "Forever" stamp now in use by the post office.

Commemorative stamps showcase all kinds of subjects; the topics and themes of stamps are almost endless. Look through a stamp catalog and you will see stamps commemorating animals, authors, Broadway musicals, comic books, explorers, flowers, movies, and politicians.

Famous people abound on commemorative stamps, from Notre Dame football coach Knute Rockne (honored on a 22-cent stamp in 1988) to entertainers like Elvis Presley (honored on a 29-cent stamp in 1993).

According to Babcock, "first day of issue" or "first-day cover" stamps are highly sought after as collector's items. These are stamps that are affixed to envelopes or postcards that are canceled by the post office on the first day of issue. He said the first availability is in the city or town that has an important or historic relationship to that particular stamp. For example, the commemorative stamp showing Abraham Lincoln as a postmaster was first issued in New Salem. Closer geographically to Culver, a stamp commemorating Rockne (who himself worked for the post office in Chicago for four years before attending college) was unveiled by President Ronald Reagan at the University of Notre Dame in March 1988. The Rockne first day covers were mailed from the Notre Dame and South Bend post offices.

## Mementoes of History

The 14 "regulars" in the

Stamp Club enjoy getting together to browse Culver's stamp collection and show off prized stamps. Every member seems to have developed a special focus for his or her personal collection.

You never know what you might learn from a stamp. Take the Inverted Jenny, for example. One of the Holy Grails of stamp collecting, the Inverted Jenny is an American airmail stamp that was misprinted in 1918

block is a block of postage stamps (customarily four stamps from the sheet) that includes the part of the sheet margin with the serial number of the printing plate used to print the stamps. It sold in 2005 for \$2.97 mil-



PHOTO/CULVER ACADEMIES COMMUNICATIONS

John Babcock shares his hobby with a Culver Academies student.

Student Ryan Kemeny said, "My favorite part of Stamp Club meetings is when Mr. Babcock dumps a pile of stamps on the table, and we go through them. I like the odd ones that nobody else has" like stamps about different diseases.

Winnetka, Ill., third-classman Austin Welch is an aspiring commercial pilot with an eye on attending the Air Force Academy. Welch enjoys collecting stamps that showcase aviation and airplanes. Like many others, his first collections were of baseball cards and model airplanes.

"You can see history through stamps. I want to be a pilot, so I have a couple of pages of airplane stamps, a U.S. history page with president stamps, and a page of stamps with historic U.S. flags."

Welch said the Stamp Club members are very appreciative of those who make the Culver club possible through the gifts of their collections and financial support.

when the paper was fed into the printer incorrectly. The result shows a Curtiss JN-4H biplane (nicknamed the Curtiss Jenny), flying upside down.

To stamp collectors, an invert is the most-prized form of stamp error. Only 11 inverted errors have occurred on U.S. postage stamps.

Only one 100-stamp pane of the Inverted Jenny airmail stamps ever came into the hands of collectors. A single one of these rare stamps sold at auction for \$825,000 in December 2007. Not a bad price for a stamp with "U.S. Postage 24 Cents" printed on it! A Jenny Invert Plate-Number Block is considered America's greatest stamp rarity and is the most sought-after and valuable of all. It is the only plate-number block from the legendary stamp error sheet. A plate-number

lion.

It only takes a little philatelic detective work to establish an historic connection to the stamp to Culver.

Two million red, white, and blue 24-cent Jenny airmail stamps were issued. Did we mention it was the first airmail stamp? They



PHOTO/CULVER ACADEMIES COMMUNICATIONS

The coveted Inverted Jenny stamp.

went on sale on May 13, 1918, just days before the first airmail flight flown in a Curtiss Jenny biplane, the same airplane featured on the first airmail stamp.

The Curtiss JN-4 was the first mass-produced U.S. plane. More than 6,000 Jenny planes were manufactured during World War I to train Allied pilots. The single-engine Jenny flew at a top speed of 80 miles per hour, with a range of 175 miles, and could maintain an altitude of 11,000 feet.

But planes without pilots are useless, and that's where the Culver connection to postal history comes in . . . and how the Culver Stamp Club became aware of the important Culver connection to airmail.

## The Airmail Story

Did you know the first airmail service in the United States was organized by a Culver graduate? It's true.

Major Reuben H. Fleet – a 1906 graduate of Culver Military Academy and the nephew of Alexander Frederick Fleet, Culver's superintendent from 1896 to 1910 – received his pilot's wings as military aviator No. 74. Assigned to Air Service Headquarters in Washington, D.C., as an Army executive officer in charge of planning instruction, Fleet had supervised the training of nearly 11,000 pilots by November 1918.

On May 6, 1918, Fleet received a new assignment: organize a revolution in communications – airmail service – and do so in less than two weeks to be ready in time for an airmail flight already scheduled to depart Washington, D.C., on May 15.

Since America was at war, Fleet faced a shortage of

Name: CULVER SUB NIE; Width: 30p11.5; Depth: 10 in; Color: Black;  
File Name: 00070190; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Pilot News;  
Size: 30 in

Name: JULY ADS; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 4 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00069477; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Family Vision Clinic; Size: 8 in

Name: WANTED - CULVER; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 4.5 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00070554; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Erie Construction; Size: 9 in



# Maxinkuckee Players' 'Music Man' is on the way

"Did you hear that?"  
 "Hear what?"  
 "I'm not sure, but I think it was a band!"  
 "A band? River City doesn't have a band!"

Please join the thousands of theatre-goers who will be certain it was in fact a band – a Boy's Band! Thanks to the glib, underhanded, quick-thinking antics of Professor Harold Hill, there will be a band (sort of) in the Culver Community High School Auditorium. Keep in mind that Gregg Underwood as Professor Harold Hill who has performed with the Maxinkuckee Singers for several years, is appearing in a theatrical performance for the first time ever! He comes with a guarantee you will want to be in the band.

Harold's major obstacle is one Marian Paroo, the town librarian and piano teacher, played by Kathy Overmyer. Marian is very skeptical and requires a great deal of persuading. Kathy brings her beautiful voice to the stage once again, and her acting ability makes you believe that she definitely does not believe Harold Hill.

Maxinkuckee Players' long time audience mem-

bers will recognize Andrea Mallory as Mrs. Paroo, Dan Adams as Mayor Shinn, and Judy Patton as Eulalie Mackecknie Shinn. The gorgeous barbershop quartet music is performed by Jim Oliverius, Kevin Mallory, Mike Overmyer and Brian Liechty. Several new faces join us this year such as Eric Burch as Winthrop, Hannah Boland as Amaryllis, and Pastor K.C. Dehning as Marcellus.

Directors this summer are Becky Liechty, Dan Adams, and Debbie Jaquay. Director of Music is Kathy Overmyer, along with choreographers Leanne Senter, Andrea Mallory and Miranda Meek rounding out the team. Providing accompaniment are Betty Martens and Annette Osborn, and the fabulous costumes have been coordinated by Judy Patton, Sharon Coffey, Lynn Overmyer and Sally Oliverius.



CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY

Gregg Underwood, left, and Culver's Trinity Lutheran church pastor K.C. Dehning are two of the leads in this year's Maxinkuckee Players production of "The Music Man."

Harold and company will appear in the Culver Community High School Auditorium Friday, July 24 at 7:30 p.m., Sunday, July 26 at 4 p.m., Wednesday, July 29 at 7:30 p.m., Friday, July 31 at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, August 1 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, August 2 at 4: p.m.

Tickets are \$5 for opening night only, then \$8 for adults and \$4 for children

all other performances. There is no reserved seating, and all tickets will be available at the door.

(Meridith Willson's "The Music Man" is presented through special arrangements with Music Theatre International, 421 West 54th St., New York, NY 10019).

## Stamps, from page 1

planes, pilots, airfields, and aircraft mechanics. Nevertheless, he proved up to the task. Curtiss airplanes were quickly modified with more powerful engines and hoppers for mailbags. Extra gas and oil tanks were added to increase flight capacity. In New York, Fleet made arrangements with the owner of Belmont Park to use the racetrack's infield as an airfield. In Washington, he chose the old Polo Grounds to serve as an airfield.

Fleet personally selected four of the first six airmail pilots, and the Postal Department selected the other

two. By coincidence, one of the six was Howard P. Culver. He has no connection to the family that founded the school, but he was the only pilot with as much as four months' flying experience.

The first airmail flights took off on May 15, 1918. Pilot George Boyle (one of the two not chosen by Fleet) crashed his plane attempting to fly from Washington to Philadelphia. Pilot Torrey Webb (hand-picked by the major) flew successfully from New York to Washington, D.C., and the airmail service was born.

Fleet became a much-heralded pioneer of aviation. He went on to become owner of Consolidated Aircraft, the manufacturer of 18,000 B-24 Liberator bombers and the 3,000 PBY "flying boat" search-and-rescue planes that became famous in World War II. PBYs helped sink the Bismarck and locate the Japanese fleet at the Battle of Midway.

But that's another story! It should be noted, however, that Fleet has had a long and continuing impact on Culver. The Reuben H. Fleet Foundation Fund at

the San Diego Foundation has contributed to Culver's endowment for scholarship support and to the construction of the Dicke Hall of Mathematics/Roberts Hall of Science, and continues to support boarding school scholarships for students from San Diego County.

He certainly put his own personal stamp on the history of Culver and American aviation!

This article is reprinted – in slightly abridged form -- with permission from the spring-summer edition of the Culver Alumni Magazine.

## Swan Lake Golf Resort anniversary to be celebrated July 19

PLYMOUTH – In 1969 Joe Namath and the New York Jets beat the Baltimore Colts in Superbowl III, astronaut Neil Armstrong became the first man to set foot on the moon and "the amazing" New York Mets won the World Series.

And, in 1969, the original golf course at Swan Lake Golf Resort opened for business.

Now a 36-hole golfing destination known as Indiana National Golf Club at Swan Lake Golf Resort, the complex offers manicured, picturesque golf; golf instruction for all levels provided by top professionals using advanced technology at the United States Golf Academy; accommodations including a 92-room hotel, log cabins and villas; exceptional dining; a spa; and a busy conference center.

Today, Swan Lake Golf Resort is a premiere destination for golfers from throughout the Midwest.

"I believe 40 years ago the Swanson Family started something very special for the game of golf

with the opening of a local course to enhance the United States Golf Academy," said Pat Bayley, general manager and PGA professional. "The current ownership has taken it to a new level, creating a true destination golf resort and corporate meeting facility. Just imagine what the next 40 years may bring to Swan Lake!"

On Sunday, July 19 Swan Lake Golf Resort will celebrate its 40th anniversary in a variety of ways:

- Silver Course green fees are just \$2 per player and require a cart. Total: Just \$17.50 for 18 holes. Advance tee times are required and confirmed via credit card.
- Special on-course prizes.
- Demonstration Day by Nike, Mizuno, Cobra/Ti-tleist, Ping and Tour Edge – plus instant trade ins.
- A Kids Clinic by the Bethel College Women's Golf Team.
- A putting clinic by Putt Dr. Bruce Rearick, who writes a Wednesday golf column in the Pilot News.
- Special values during a "sidewalk sale" at the Indiana National Golf Shop and the United States Golf Academy.
- Delicious grilled brats, hot dogs and hamburgers.
- Plenty of door prizes.

For golfing tee times or questions about the 40th Anniversary Celebration at Swan Lake Golf Resort, please call 574 936-9798.

Name: Legals; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 5.5 in; Color: Black; File Name: -; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Legals; Size: 11 in

Name: BEER GARDEN; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 4 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00071123; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Culver Coffee Company; Size: 8 in

Name: SOS; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 4 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00071122; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Fisher & Co. Clothiers; Size: 8 in

Name: Chad; Width: 30p11.5; Depth: 5 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00070688; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: First Farmers Bank & Trust; Size: 15 in

Name: July service ad- CC; Width: 30p11.5; Depth: 5 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00069440; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Kankakee Valley Ford; Size: 15 in